

222 EAST MAIN STREET, WESTMINSTER

This white clapboard building is, in spirit, one of the scores of buildings that could be classed as "typical" - 5 bays wide, central door, 2 stories; in short, it is a perfect example of the classic Westminster house. It is a perfect example of another trend as well, namely, the seeming inability, unwillingness of the town's residents to accept that they are, in fact, town residents. Although when the house was built, c. 1845, Westminster was once a mile long and a county seat, the builder clearly felt more at ease with a rural structure, a country seat.

The house, along with Lots 41, 42, and 43 of the original town, belonged to John Fisher, a wealthy banker-farmer-entrepreneur in the 1840's, who used it as rental property. This use has been continued.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CARR 361  
0703614404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John Fisher Property

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

222 East Main Street (MD 32)

6

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

Carroll

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

— YES: UNRESTRICTED

— NO

**PRESENT USE**

— AGRICULTURE

— MUSEUM

— COMMERCIAL

— PARK

— EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— ENTERTAINMENT

— RELIGIOUS

— GOVERNMENT

— SCIENTIFIC

— INDUSTRIAL

— TRANSPORTATION

— MILITARY

— OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Charles L. Stull

Telephone #: 239-8871

STREET & NUMBER

3969 Lineboro Road

Maryland 21102

CITY, TOWN

Manchester

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

Liber #: 510

Folio #: 577

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On the border between lots 42 and 43 of the original town of Westminster, number 222 East Main Street is an interesting example in wood of the normally brick classic Westminster house - 2½ story 5 bay by 2 bay pile with an ell.

The north, Main Street, facade has its nine two over two double-hung sash windows regularly placed on two floors. The windows are flanked by green louvered shutters. The entrance door, the center ground floor bay, is of half wood (2 vertical panels) and half-glass (6 lights); it rests beneath a two bracketed modest cornice similar to that of its neighbor, 224 East Main Street. White aluminum siding covers this front.

The west front, beneath a brick corbelled flush chimney, has one 4/1 attic window to the north of the chimney, and one 2/2 window halfway back in the ell. Otherwise the facade, covered with white imbricated shingles, is blind.

Opposite, the east facade has two 4 light windows flanking its flush brick corbelled chimney; below, on the ground floor is a recently installed half-wood half-glass entrance door beneath a brick asbestos shingled shed roof awning. There are two 6/6 windows towards the rear of the ell. The shed roof of the ell, which slopes to the south, is like the gabled roof of the Main Street section, covered with green corrugated sheet metal with only gutters at all the eaves.

The south side of the ell is shaded in the eastern two-thirds, by a 2-tier porch, supported and railed very simply. The porch is enclosed to the west, and this solid has as voids one centrally placed 6/6 window per floor. In plan, the house originally had the through hall, twin double parlor arrangement typical of the area's vernacular tradition. Recent owners have re-arranged rooms as felt needed to adapt the house to multi-family living.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# **8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	c. 1845	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Unknown
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Number 222 East Main Street is significant in the architectural social history of Westminster due to its form, material, and use. The house is, in spirit, one of the scores of buildings that could be classed as typical - 5 bays wide, central door, 2-2½ stories; in short, it is a perfect example of the classic Westminster house. It is a perfect example of another trend as well, namely the seeming inability/unwillingness of the town's residents to accept the fact that they are, in fact, town residents. Although when the house was built, Westminster was over a mile long and a county seat, the builder clearly felt more at ease with a structure from the fields, a country Seat. The house is also significant in that it is one of the not too common wood frame buildings in the City. Westminster (and, for that matter, Carroll County) seemed to prefer brick, with stone as the ideal. Although brick was cheap and clay plentiful, perhaps a more subtle reason for the preference would have been that wood might have been too close to log, and, thereby, to the pioneer dwellings that still existed, and which the area's "upwardly mobile" citizens might have preferred to ignore.

Early history of the house is difficult to substantiate. By the late 1840's lots 43, 42 and 41 had been purchased by John Fisher, a wealthy banker - farmer - entrepreneur as rental property. There were already small wood frame buildings standing (nos. 224, 226) and it is the size of no. 222 that makes one suspect that it was not built until Fisher's date. (This rental theory is based on the 1822-32 diary of Mrs. Shellman, which lists no one as living on the lot, and on a metes and bounds description of a neighboring lot which notes that the next lot - our property - is owned by "John Fisher on which Catherine Kessering now resides "Frederick County deed 15/550, dated January 5, 1854.)

The house changed hands a half-dozen times in the next century, until its present owner, Charles W. Stull, took title on May 5, 1972 (Deed 510/577). There is some continuity of use - the house is still used as rental property.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Being on the border between lots 42 and 43 of the original town of Westminster as shown on a plat recorded among the Land Records of Frederick County in Book L, page 472.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

October, 1976

ORGANIZATION

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



CARR 36/  
220 E. Main St.  
Westminster  
E. facade  
10/76 C. Weeks





CARR 361

220 E Main St.

Westminster

NE facade

10/16 Cwech

42°  
10



CARR 361

220 E. Main St. Westville

N. facade

10/76 C. Warner

A-7